

## YOUR WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Adult Envelope                         | \$ 2,429.00 |
| Donations Fiscal Year To Date          | 57,470.00   |
| Budgeted Donations Fiscal Year To Date | 61,176.00   |
| Loose Plate                            | 56.10       |
| Children's Envelopes                   | 17.06       |
| Green Special Needs Envelopes          | 50.00       |
| Wednesday Coffee Cup                   | 26.00       |
| Breaking Bread Free Will Collection    | 120.00      |
| Retirement for Religious Envelopes     | 75.00       |
| Immaculate Conception Envelopes        | 200.00      |
| FACT Christmas Donations               | 275.00      |

## PRAYER CORNER

# Let's Pray!

Louise Bartlett,  
Julia Beckmann,  
Lorraine Degiovanni,  
Paul Dukowitz,  
Gloria Ebacher,  
Ron Eisenschenk,  
Alvina Klocker,  
Gen Ludowese, Mildred Notsch,  
Anthony Scholz, Charlie & Nancy Wenner,  
all who are lonely, grieving or estranged,  
Military Men, Women and their families,  
and all the ill or suffering.

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

**Curious about Our Community Meal?**  
We have been hosting a "Breaking Bread" community lunch after every Faith Formation class. This meal is for **EVERYONE!** **Join us December 15th (menu: Biscuit Topped Chicken Pot Pie and salad ) , serving at 10:45 am, a free will offering is collected at all community meals.**

Thanks to all of the volunteers who prepare food, set-up and clean-up at these community meals!



All children are welcome to stop by the table in the hallway to pick up your weekly Gospel puzzle sheet – **and don't forget to pick up a yellow children's envelope and write a good deed on it – Father will collect them during the offertory.**

Some wonderful good deeds submitted on recent children's envelopes include:

"Helping with my baby brother." -Pippin

"Being nice to my sisters." -Kellen

"Helping my siblings." -Elleah

"I helped my friends with their homework." -Rose

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

| SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND 8:30 AM MASS <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i> |                             |             |                               |  |                  |   |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------|---|
| USHERS:   | SERVER:                     | LECTOR:     | GIFT BEARERS:                 | EUCH. MINISTERS:                           | SACRISTAN:       | MUSIC:  |
| Harry Reischl<br>Chuck Lauer                                      | Holly Hansen<br>Nick Hansen | Denis Hynes | Don & Marita<br>Schwinghammer | Alice Mayers<br>Bob Mayers<br>Elaine Omann | Arnie<br>Sauerer | Br. David<br>Klingeman OSB<br>Karen Schellinger |

*Thank you to those who volunteer for our various liturgical ministries.*

*If you would like to volunteer for any of our Liturgical Ministry roles, please contact the parish office.*

## CALENDAR

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15** *3rd Sun. of Advent*  
8:30 AM Mass +Wayne Klein  
Faith Formation, Speaker & Breaking Bread,  
11:30-4:00 Parish Center Rental

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18**  
8:00 AM Mass +Rose Schaefer  
8:30 AM Breakfast

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20**  
8:00 AM Mass +Elaine Vogel & Benediction

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22** *4th Sunday of Advent*  
8:30 AM Mass ++George & Viola Dullinger

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24** *Christmas Eve*  
5:00 PM Mass *Vigil of Christmas*

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25** **NO MASS**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27**  
8:00 AM Mass & Benediction

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29** *Holy Family*  
8:30 AM MASS +John Nentl

DECEMBER 25-JANUARY 3: PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1** *New Year's Day*  
8:00 AM Mass  
8:30 AM Breakfast

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 3**  
8:00 AM Mass & Benediction

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4**  
9:00 AM Parish Council Workshop

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5**  
8:30 AM Mass

## FAITH FORMATION NOTES

### 1. "The Christmas Shoes"

Sign up for the Christmas presentation is on the table in the hallway of the Parish Center. This event will take place Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm mass.

Practices will be on:

12/15 after Breaking Bread, 11:00-11:30

12/22 after mass 9:30 to 11:30; Lunch will be provided for children who are participating.

If you have any questions, please contact Dianne Bechtold.

**2. January 5 —Speaker:** Peggy Roske, History of St. John the Baptist Parish, Part 2.

**January 19 — Speaker:** Daniel Funeral Home on Funeral Planning, Cremation, and Green Funerals

**3. Thank you** to Barb Lyngaard, Joyce Abeln, Annie Hanson, and Mary Reischl for assisting with the cutting of the fabric to prepare for the blanket tying.

**4. Thank you** to all the people who donated fleece fabric to make the blankets for the St. Joe Food Shelf. We have over 24+ blankets to donate.

**5. December 15 Breaking Bread** meal (Biscuit Topped Chicken Pot Pie and salad) will be served promptly at 10:45 am. Join us!

### Note of Sympathy:

Please keep in your prayers the family of Sargeant Kort Plantenberg who passed away on December 5th. May the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



This year our parish's **Advent "Giving Tree"** will feature two projects in which members of our parish may want to participate.

Some of the ornaments on the tree will have the names of some special people in our own parish. Included will be the names of those on our prayer list and shut-ins, and parishioners 90 years old and older.

You are invited to choose a name from the tree. During Advent and the Christmas season, you can be the "Secret Santa" for that person, possibly doing something for them weekly and ending with a small gift or visit.

The other ornaments on the tree will be invitations to donate money to FACT, a local non-profit organization that provides weekend nourishment to food-insecure school children in our area. \$5 will buy enough food and snacks for one child for one week.

### How do the Numbers Compare?

| Mass Attendance:          | 2018 | 2019 |
|---------------------------|------|------|
| <i>Week 4 of November</i> | 118  | 174  |
| <i>Week 1 of December</i> | 113  | —    |
| <i>Week 2 of December</i> | 102  | 176  |

Are you part of our numbers?

### Holiday Craft Sale Note

Thank you to absolutely everyone who helped with our first Holiday Craft Sale in November! So much effort by volunteers was the key to success:

\*from the spark of an idea to implementation of the event

\*prepping the parish center for set up/take down

\*preparing and serving lunch

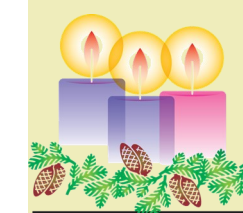
\*all our fabulous vendors and the wonderful customers

We plan to hold this event again in the fall of 2020 so watch the bulletin for future updates!

### First Reconciliation

Congratulations to the following students who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Thursday evening.

*Tucker Burg, Adelyn Eiyneck, Griffin Loso, Lars Lyngaard, Kyla Schrom, and Jake Theisen*



On the third Sunday of Advent we light a rose color candle. We're roughly halfway through the Advent season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation!

### Christmas Mass Schedule:

Tuesday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m. in the **Abbey Church**. The Choir will rehearse at 4:30 p.m.







Our parish is in search of a Kitchen Event Coordinator. Shelly Carlson, our current coordinator, will be retiring after 20+ years of service. We need your help finding a replacement.

The Kitchen Event Coordinator manages the Parish Center kitchen at our three main parish fundraisers (Oktoberfest, Fish Fry Dinners and Coffee Cake Sales), funeral luncheons, and building rentals. This position is **essential** to the **vitality** of our parish, since a large portion of our income comes from our fundraising meals. Not

filling this position will greatly affect our parish; and it would be hard to imagine our parish without fundraising meals, funeral lunches or other community-building parish events.

The position could be separated into smaller positions if necessary (fundraising meals – funeral luncheons – building rentals & kitchen upkeep). This is a paid position and we are willing to offer training, and time to shadow Shelly in the kitchen.

It is critical that we fill this position soon!

What can you do to help?

- If you know of someone who might be interested, please notify them of the position and have them contact Julie in the parish office.
- If you have any suggestions or recommendations, please contact Julie in the parish office.
- Please pray that we find someone willing to fill this very important position.

# BENEDICTINE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES

OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST. JOSEPH PARISHES



DECEMBER 15, 2019  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

14241 Fruit Farm Road  
St. Joseph, MN 56374  
320.363.2569  
www.stjohnthebaptistparish.org

## Welcome

Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph and St. John the Baptist:

It is amazing that we begin Advent with the admonition: "Stay Awake!" and we all think of this as a future event. Yet, here we have two sudden and tragic deaths; Delores Giroux in St. Joseph and Kort Plantenberg from Collegetown. What a reminder of our fragility. Over the years I have looked at and studied various symbols of our Christian life. The most arresting of these are found in the earliest catacombs of the Christians in Rome. There are fish, a peacock, and yet another symbol is the anchor.

The anchor is an instrument that holds a boat in place. It represents stability and security. For early Christians they could use this symbol without being recognized as Christians. The anchor is something to hold onto when the seas get rough or when our lives seem disturbed. When we get the news of having cancer or a spouse dying or a child being sick, what do we hold onto?

Faced with the storms that we invariably encounter Christ is our sure and solid hope, our anchor. As we look forward to Christmas in a few days here is the anchor once again presented to us as a newborn child. A vulnerable, needy baby born for us.

It is hard to imagine that one little person could make such a difference for us. In the Hebrew tradition there is a saying that to kill another person you kill a whole world. Each baby, then, is invaluable to this world.



## OUR MISSION

We are a progressive Catholic Benedictine Community encountering Christ through the celebration of Word and Sacrament, one another, nature, and our thirst to create a just world.

## MASS TIMES

Wednesday & Friday: 8 am  
Sunday: 8:30 am

## STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Jerome Tupa, OSB  
320.363.7505 ext.122  
pastorosb@churchstjoseph.org

Business Manager:  
Julie Ortloff,  
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jortloff@csbsju.edu

Music Coordinator:  
Br. David Klingeman OSB,  
dklingeman@csbsju.edu

Faith Formation Coordinators:  
Tess Koltes,  
tmgkoltes8719@gmail.com

Dianne Bechtold,  
diannegunnett@yahoo.com

Trustees:  
Dean Merdan 320.356.7131  
Lori Fuchs 320.267.1283

Parish Council Representatives:  
Joe Theisen 320.282.9032  
Brian Posch 320.333.2036  
Joyce Abeln 320.761.2275  
Greg Hansen 320.492.4844  
Tess Koltes 320.250.6728

Committee Chairpersons:  
Social Justice & Min: Carol Jansky  
Parish Life: Heidi Peternell  
Liturgy/Faith Form.: Tess Koltes  
Finance Council: Dan Backes

www.facebook.com/sjtbp  
www.StJohnTheBaptistParish.org

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